

Capsule Summary

Survey # AL-VI-B-340

Approximate date Ca. 1894

Street Address 18 Jackson Street

Town, State Lonaconing, MD (Allegany County)

private __, public x

This property is being recorded prior to demolition due to severe flood damage which occurred in 1996 when Jackson's Run overflowed. The property is a two story frame store and apartment building dating from the 1890s, and displaying Italianate style influence in its bracketed cornice and storefronts. It reflects Lonaconing's peak period of growth and the commercial district which extended along Jackson Street in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. The property was acquired by Joseph S.W. Harris and his wife Elizabeth in 1894 from George H. Fresh. Harris built the store shortly thereafter.

Form Prepared by: Paula S. Reed, PhD
Paula Reed and Associates, Inc.
105 N. Potomac Street
Hagerstown, MD 21740

Maryland Historical Trust

State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Survey No. AL-VI-B-340

Magi No.

DOE ☐ yes ☐ no

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic Harris Store

and/or common 18 Jackson Street

2. Location

street & number 18 Jackson Street

☐ not for publication

city, town Lonaconing

☐ vicinity of

congressional district

state Maryland

county Allegany

3. Classification

Category

☐ district)
☒ building(s)
☐ structure
☐ site
☐ object

Ownership

☒ public
☐ private
☐ both

Public Acquisition

☐ in process
☐ being considered
☐ not applicable

Status

☐ occupied
☒ unoccupied
☐ work in progress

Accessible

☐ yes: restricted
☐ yes: unrestricted
☒ no

Present Use

☐ agriculture
☐ commercial
☐ educational
☐ entertainment
☐ government
☐ industrial
☐ military

☐ museum
☐ park
☐ private residence
☐ religious
☐ scientific
☐ transportation
☒ other: vacant

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Town of Lonaconing

street & number Town Hall

telephone no.:

city, town Lonaconing

state and zip code MD 21539

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Allegany County Courthouse

Liber 552

street & number Washington Street

Folio 912

city, town Cumberland

state MD

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title Lonaconing National Register Historic District

date ☐ federal ☒ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records Maryland Historical Trust

city, town Crownsville

state MD

7. Description

Survey No. AL-VI-B-340

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		date of move _____

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

This building, the former Harris Market, is located at 18 Jackson Street on the east side of Georges Creek near the center of Lonaconing in Allegany County. The building is a two story, seven bay frame commercial and residential property situated on the west side of Jackson Street, south of its intersection with Front Street. The topography of the land around Lonaconing is created by intersecting narrow stream valleys where Jackson Run and Koontz Run enter Georges Creek. These narrow gorges separate mountain knolls, among which the town is laid out. The first business district in Lonaconing was along Jackson Street, which parallels Jackson Run.

The commercial building located at 18 Jackson Street is a two story, seven bay light weight frame building with lapped wooden siding. It has some late Italianate features and appears to date from the 1890s, probably about 1894 when the property was purchased by Joseph S.W. Harris and his wife, Elizabeth. They operated Harris' Meat Market in the building for many years. The building has two parallel gabled wings extending to the rear. These are covered with board and batten siding and the two extensions are separated by a narrow space or walkway between them. Double porches provided access to the second floor rear elevations of the two extensions which were used as residential units. Another two story porch is located at the north gable end of the main block. This porch system is supported by turned posts and screened at the first story level from the public right of way by wooden lattice. The front of the building is dominated by a series of storefronts beneath bracketed cornices. The seven-bay facade is interrupted by a vertical trim board between the second and third bays from the south end of the building. The five northern bays appear as a unit. This section has two commercial entrances in the second and fourth bays, separated by large plate glass display windows. Much of the glass is now gone, and plywood is nailed in its place. At the second story level, windows of the five northern bays have six over six light sash. The unified appearance of the five northern bays suggests that they were built as a unit with the two southern bays added a short time later. This two bay section has its own entrance and display window, now boarded shut. Second story windows in the south section have single pane sash. All are trimmed with molded, flat topped architraves, characteristic of the 1890s and early 1900s. The roof is covered with asphalt shingles and a brick chimney is located inside the north gable end.

The commercial storefronts are defined by a projecting cornice, trimmed with decorative brackets. The brackets associated with the northern five bays of the building are slightly different from those over the storefront at the south two bays, also suggesting that while the two sections are contemporary with one another, they were not constructed at the same time.

The interior of the building is only partially accessible because of advanced deterioration and structural damage due to flooding. The northern entrance in the front elevation opens into a store room, most recently used as a grocery. This store room consists of the three northern bays, with one large first story room. Shelving lines the north wall. This shelving appears to be an original feature of the building and is topped with a molded cornice. Walls and ceilings have been covered with a manufactured material resembling particle board, although beaded tongue and groove wainscot remains behind the shelves. The space is partially supported by a chamfered wooden support posts. A broad archway opens the space into the next commercial area which consists of most of the remaining first floor, except for an entrance and stair leading to the second floor at the north end of the building. This second commercial space was the home of Harris' Meat Market. Surviving in this space is a refrigerator and meat locker which appears to date from the early 20th century, probably the 1920s. Doors to the meat locker have beveled glass mirrors with natural wood trim and nickel plated brass hinges and chrome latches. Shelving along the south wall and tongue and groove wainscotting also survive. The shelving appears to date from the second quarter of the 20th century. Behind the meat locker were two small rooms which appear to have been used for storage and preparation as well as where merchandise was unloaded. These small rooms were in the rear wing extending to the west at the south side of the building.

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DOE ☐ yes ☐ no

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The building is in very poor condition due to flood damage and general deterioration, and is awaiting demolition.

8. Significance

Survey No. AL-VI-B-340

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other(specify)	

Specific dates	Builder/Architect
check: Applicable Criteria: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D	
and/or Applicable Exceptions: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D <input type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> G	
Level of Significance: <input type="checkbox"/> national <input type="checkbox"/> state <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> local	

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

Summary:

This property is being recorded prior to demolition due to severe flood damage which occurred in 1996 when Jackson's Run overflowed. The property is a two story frame store and apartment building dating from the 1890s, and displaying Italianate style influence in its bracketed cornice and storefronts. It reflects Lonaconing's peak period of growth and the commercial district which extended along Jackson Street in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. The property was acquired by Joseph S.W. Harris and his wife Elizabeth in 1894 from George H. Fresh. Harris built the store shortly thereafter.

Historic Context:

The history of Allegany County was powered by the development of industry and transportation in western Maryland. The discovery of iron ore and coal in the 18th century in the western mountains of Maryland intensified the growth of the area already begun to a small degree through hunting and farming. Not until the early 19th century, however, did the need for high quality coal and iron, and the ability to transport them efficiently, spur the development of the company towns which are spread throughout Allegany County, Lonaconing among them. The crude National Pike begun in 1806, was improved with macadam surface in 1831. The network of railroads radiating from Cumberland on the eastern edge of Allegany County, began to take shape in the 1840s and 50s.¹ These improved routes of transportation, along with the development of the C&O Canal, intensified the mining boom in the second half of the 19th century in western Maryland.

The mineral rich George's Creek Valley, running south from Frostburg to the Potomac River at Westernport, and bounded on the east by Dan's Mountain and on the west by Big Savage Mountain, was the setting for much of that development. Home of the Big Vein, a prodigious deposit of high quality coal, the valley provided for the development of many independent mining companies. About halfway down the valley, between Frostburg and Westernport, the George's Creek Coal and Iron Co. put down its roots.

The village of Lonaconing, its name derived from Lonacona, the native name for George's Creek, was established in 1837 by the George's Creek Coal and Iron Co. At the new village was an iron furnace, still standing today. The company built houses for the workers, established rules to live by, and created a road to connect their town with the National Pike at Frostburg. By 1856 the iron furnace was abandoned in favor of the

¹Donna M. Ware, Green Glades and Sooty Gob Piles, Maryland Historical Trust, pp 22-28..

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more profitable extraction of bituminous coal. By this time the Cumberland and Pennsylvania Railroad had purchased the Company road to Frostburg, establishing a line straight through the coal rich George's Creek valley from Piedmont, West Virginia to Cumberland, Maryland.² The advent of the railroad connection with Cumberland was crucial to the continued development of the town of Lonaconing and the surrounding area. The railroad linked Lonaconing to the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad as well as the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal, both important connections with coal markets in the industrialized East.

In 1881, Lonaconing was thriving with a population of 5,000 and a well established business district running from the original village along Jackson Street to Main Street on the other side of the railroad tracks.³ On the corner of Jackson and Front Streets, was the location of the first hotel in Lonaconing, the Jackson House. On September 7, 1881, fire destroyed many of the businesses along the Main Street district. The town was prospering, however, and recovered from the fire. In 1890 Lonaconing was incorporated as a town, its growth continuing into the early 20th century, attracting a population of immigrants, skilled in mining, from Germany, Wales, Scotland and Ireland.⁴

By the turn of the century, Lonaconing had its own water and electric companies. In 1907, a new industry, silk milling, arrived with the Klot's Throwing Co.; and in 1914 the Lonaconing Glass Co. was established.⁵ The new industries lent themselves well to the town's immigrant workforce, originally attracted by the mining of coal and iron ore.

Following World War I the town of Lonaconing began to decline. Fire, floods, flu, and the Great Depression disastrously impacted the industries which had made the town prosperous. From a population high of around 9,000 at the start of World War I, it had fallen to approximately 1,500 in 1996.⁶

Resource History:

The building at 18 Jackson Street stands on a lot that was conveyed to Joseph S.W. Harris and Elizabeth Harris, his wife, by George Fresh by deed dated February 19, 1894 (Allegany County Deed Book 76, Page 10). The property was bounded on the east by Jackson Street, on the west by Washington Street and on the north by the Jackson Hotel property. The architectural characteristics of the building suggest that it was constructed by Harris, probably shortly after the 1894 purchase. On May 19, 1921, D. Lindley Stone, Attorney, transferred the property to Hattie Harris, Elizabeth Dunn, David W. Harris, Joseph Harris, Marie Lane, William S. Harris, Margaret Harris and Walter Harris, sons and daughters of Joseph Harris, deceased. There had been a default on

²James W. Thomas and Judge T.J.C. Williams, History of Allegany Co., Maryland, Vol. 1, pp. 536-38.

³Ware, p.74.

⁴Thomas, pp. 536-542.

⁵Thomas, p. 545.

⁶William M. Maury, "River Rats" put Westernport on the Map Early, Towne, Vol 4, Number 2, Oct 1996, p. 12.

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DOE ☐ yes ☐ no

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the mortgage for the property on April 12, 1919 which resulted in the sale to the heirs for \$5000.00 (Deed Book 141, page 484). In recent years, the property changed hands several times, being conveyed to the Liberty Trust Company by Elizabeth H. Bolyard for herself and as guardian of her husband, Boyd Bolyard in August, 1983 (536/691); from Liberty Bank of Maryland, Trustee, to the Boy Scouts of America, Potomac Council in July 1985 (551/943); from the Boy Scouts of America to Everett Spiker in August, 1985; and from Mark Spiker to Patrick Eagan in October, 1985. The property currently belongs to the Town of Lonaconing.

Resource Evaluation:

Constructed in the 1890s when Lonaconing was at its peak of development, this commercial and residential building reflects the prosperity and decline of this mining and manufacturing center on Georges Creek in Allegany County. The mortgage default in 1919, just after the end of World War I illustrates the general recession that occurred in the United States following the war, and the specific conditions that were operating in Lonaconing at the time.

The building has been severely damaged by flooding in 1996 and is being recorded prior to demolition. The flood damage and general deterioration have contributed to a loss in architectural integrity. At the time of the site visit, remnants remained to indicate the building's former prominence, such as its bank of storefront display windows beneath a bracketed cornice, as well as surviving intact interior elements, including shelving, wainscotting and the early 20th century meat locker. Although the building is not as sophisticated as the larger commercial blocks on Main Street, it does portray the architectural development of commercial buildings on Jackson Street, the early business district in Lonaconing.

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DOE ☐ yes ☐ no

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HISTORICAL CONTEXT:

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization: Western Maryland

Chronological/Developmental Period(s): Industrial/Urban Dominance 1870-1930.

Prehistoric/Historic Period Theme(s):

Architecture, Landscape Architecture and Community Planning
Economic (Commercial and Industrial)

Resource Type:

Category: Building

Historic Environment: Urban

Historic Function(s) and Use(s):

Store

Dwelling

Known Design Source: Unknown

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. AL-VI-B-340

Feldstein, Allen, Feldstein's Historic Postcard Album of Allegany County, Maryland, Cumberland: Commercial Press printing Co., 1983.

Maury, William M., "River Rats' put Westernport on the map early", article from Towne, Vol. 4, Number 2, October 1996, Bunker Enterprises, Inc., Garrett Park, Maryland.

Thomas, James W. and Judge T.J.C. Williams, History of Allegany County, Maryland, Vol. I, Regional Publishing Co., Baltimore, 1969.

Ware, Donna M., Green Glades and Sooty Gob Piles/The Maryland Coal Regions Industrial and Architectural Past, Maryland Historical Trust, Maryland Historical and Cultural Publications, Crownsville, Maryland, 1991.

Hanging file, Lonaconing, Western Maryland Room, Washington County Free Library, Hagerstown, Maryland.



10. Geographical Data



Acreage of nominated property Lot 55'x70'

Quadrangle name Lonaconing

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UTM References DO NOT COMPLETE UTM REFERENCES

A  **B** 

C  **D** 

Verbal boundary description and justification

The property includes all of the parcel shown on the attached tax map section, and defined as parcel # 72. It is further described in Deed 552, Page 912, in Allegany County Land Records. This is the entire property as it currently exists.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title	Paula S. Reed, PhD		
organization	Paula S Reed and Assoc. Inc.	date	May, 1998
street & number	105 N. Potomac St.	telephone	301-739-2070
city or town	Hagerstown	state	Maryland 21740

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

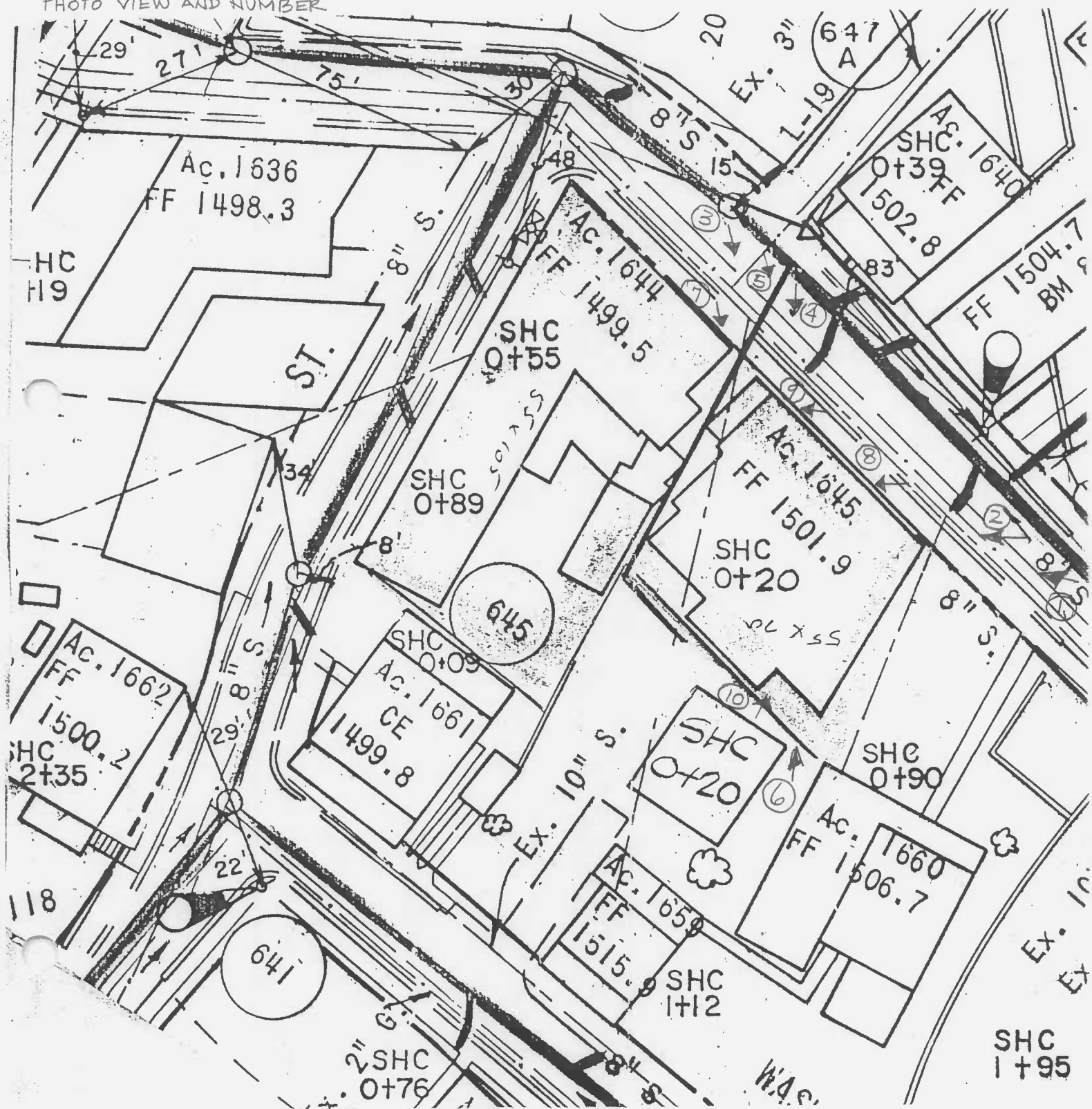
return to: Maryland Historical Trust
People's Resource Center
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023
410-514-7000

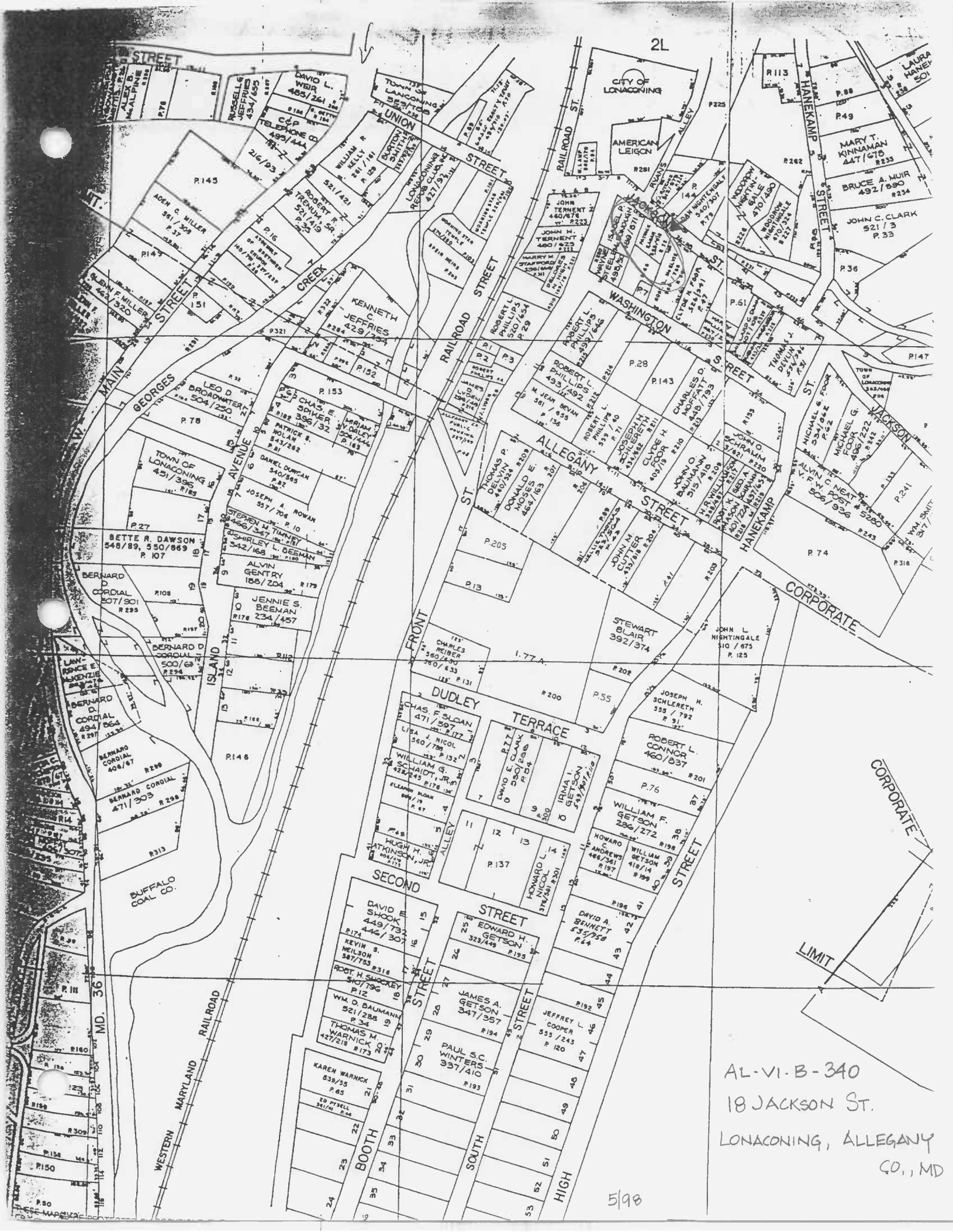
AL-VI-B-340

18 JACKSON ST

LONA CONING, ALLEGANY CO, MD

PHOTO VIEW AND NUMBER





AL-VI-B-340
18 JACKSON ST.
LONA CONING, ALLEGANY
CO., MD

4387000m.N.

4386

4385

400 000 FEET
(W. VA.)

4384

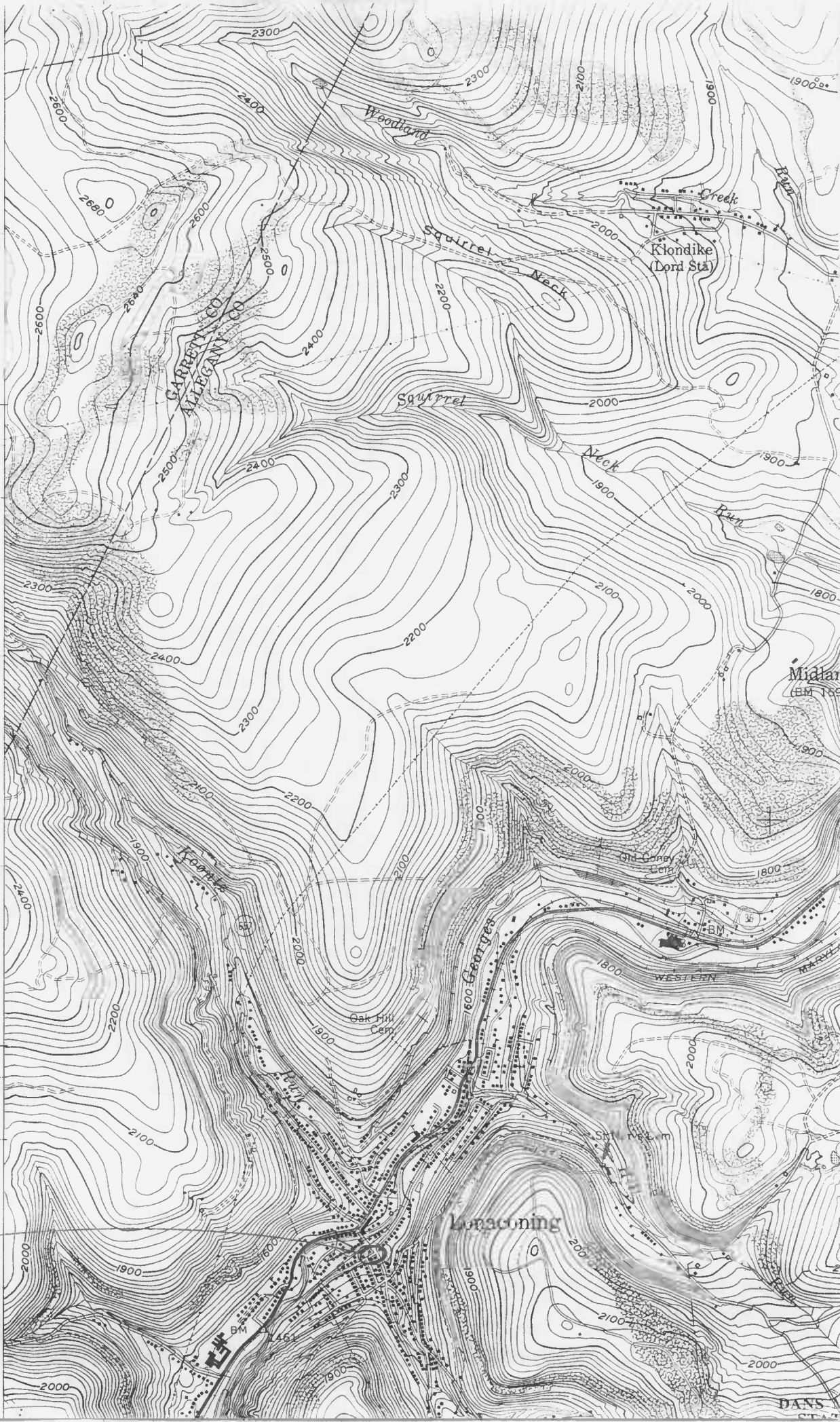
35'

4383

4382

5163 II SE
(BARTON)

LONA CONING QUAD
AL-VI-B-340
18 JACKSON ST.
LONA CONING,
ALLEGANY CO, MD





AL-VI-B-340

18 Jackson St., Lonaconing, MD
Allegany Co.

Photo by P. Reed

4/98

neg. for P. Reed & Assoc. Inc.
Hagerstown, MD

NW view, front + South end elevations

#1



AL-VI-B-340, 339

18, 14-16 Jackson St., Lonaconing, MD

Allegheny Co.

photo by P. Reel

4/98

neg loc. P. Reel + Assoc. Inc.

Hagerstown MD

NW view

#2



AL-VI-B-340

18 JACKSON ST., Lonaconing, MD

Allegheny Co.

photo by P. Reed

4/98

neg. loc. P. Reed + Assoc. Inc.

Hagerstown, MD

SW View

#3



AL-VI-B-340

18 Jackson St. Lonaconing, MD, Allegany Co.
photo by P. Reed

4/98

Neg. Loc. P. Reed & Assoc.
Hagerstown, MD

S.W. view

#4



AL-VI-B-340

18 Jackson St. Lanacoring, MD

Allegany Co.

photo by P. Reel

4/98

neg. loc. P. Reel & Assoc. Inc.

Hagerstown MD

SW view

#5



AL-VI-B-340

18 Jackson St., Lonaconing, MD

Allegany Co.

photo by P. Reed

4/98

req. loc. P. Reed & Assoc. Inc.

Hagerstown, MD

NE view, real elevation

#6



AL-VI-B-340

18 Jackson St. Lonaconing, MD
Allegany Co.

photo by P. Reed

4/98

req. by P. Reed, Assoc. Inc.

Hagerstown, MD

Detail, N gable wall

#7



AL-VI-B-340

18 Jackson St., Lonscanning, MD
Allegany Co.

Photo by P. Reed

4/98

req. loc. P. Reed & Assoc. Inc.
Hagerstown, MD

Detail, front elevation

#8



AL-VI-B-340

18 Jackson St., Lonsdale, MD
Allegany Co.

photo by P. Reed

4/98

neg loc. P. Reed + Assoc. Inc.
Hagerstown, MD

Detail, Storefront

#9



AL-VI-B-340

18 Jackson St. Lanesboro St.
Albany Co.

photo by P. Reed

4/98

req. loc. P Reed & Assoc Inc.
Hagerstown, MD

Detail, near elevation (S. Elevation)

#10



AL-VI-B-340

18 Jackson St. Lonaconing, MD

Allegany Co

photo by P. Reed

4198

neg. loc. P. Reed + Assoc. Inc

Hagerstown, MD

Interior, W. Store (Grocery)

#11



AL-VI-B-340

18 Jackson St. Lonaconing, MD.

Alleghany Co.

photo by P. Reed

4/98

req. loc. P. Reed & Assoc. Inc.

Hagerstown MD

Interior, detail, Shelving w. stone oma

#12



AL-VI-B-340

18 Jackson St., Lonaconing, MD

Allegheny Co

photo by P. Reed

4/98

req. loc. P. Reed + Assoc. Inc.

Hagerstown, MD

Interior, detail, west store area

#13



AL-VI-B-340

18 Jackson St. Lonaconing, MD
Allegheny Co.

photo by P. Reed

4/98

reg loc. P. Reed & Assoc, Inc.
Hagerstown, MD

Interior detail, W. store area from E. store area

#14



AL-VI-B-340

18 Jackson St. Hancock, MD

Allegheny Co.

photo by P. Reed

4/98

neg. loc. P. Reed + Assoc. Inc.

Hagerstown, MD

Interior, Detail w. Stone from E. Stone area

15



AL-VI-B-340

18 Jackson St., Lonaconing, MD.
Allegany Co.

4/98

photo by P. Reed

req. by P. Reed + Assoc. Inc.

Hagerstown, MD

Interior, detail, E store area (meat market)
meat lockers

#16



AL-VI-B-340

18 Jackson St. Lanecorning, MD

Allegheny Co.

photo by P. Reed

4/98

Neg. loc. P. Reed + Assoc. Inc.

Hagerstown, MD

Interior detail E store area (meat market)
Shelving

#17